

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Alexander et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,986,782, hereafter "Alexander"); rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alexander in view of Karasawa (U.S. Patent No. 6,834,052 B1); rejected claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alexander in view of Hayashi (U.S. Patent Publication 2001/0028256 A1); and rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alexander in view of Cao (U.S. Patent No. 6,344,910 B1). The Examiner indicated that claims 5-40 were drawn to allowable material, and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have amended claims 1-4 and 38-40; cancelled claims 5-37; and added new claims 41-70.

Claims 2 and 3 have been amended to more clearly define the present invention. Claims 39-40 have been amended to correctly reflect their dependence in light of the amended claims 1-4 and 41-70.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections, but to advance prosecution have amended claim 1 to include limitations from claim 5. Claim 5 was previously indicated by the Examiner as drawn to allowable material, specifically reciting a "sampling clock generating means for generating a sampling clock signal whose repetition frequency is f_1 (Hz) ($f_1 = (n/m)f_0 + a$," and accordingly, rewritten claim 1 is allowable. Though of different scope, independent claims 41 and 50 recite similar limitations to claim 1, and are also allowable for at least the previously discussed reasons with respect to claim 1. Furthermore, claims 2-4, 42-49, and 51-70 respectively depend from independent claims 1, 41, and 50, and are allowable at least due to their respective dependencies.

In addition, claims 39-40 depend from claims 1-4 and 41-70, and are thus allowable at least due to their dependence.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and request prompt and favorable action by the Examiner in the form of a Notice of Allowance.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

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By: *Stephen L. Pitarum* #26,325 for
John L. Romary
Reg. No. 26,331